

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JOHNSON DRIVE RAMPS REOPEN

VENTURA – The northbound Ventura Freeway (US 101) Johnson Drive on-ramp and off-ramp reopened today. The ramps had been closed since mid-April to enable the rerouting of traffic to a median detour for the purpose of building new pavement north of the new Santa Clara River Bridge, which was just opened to northbound traffic.

On August 13, it is expected that southbound US 101 traffic will be switched to the existing northbound bridge, which will necessitate extended closures (12-to 18 months) of various southbound ramps, including the Johnson Drive on-ramp and the Wagon Wheel Road and Oxnard Boulevard (Route 1) off-ramps.

During the closures, the following detours are recommended:

Johnson Drive on-ramp detour will be Ventura Boulevard to Victoria Avenue or Leland Street to Golf Course Drive to Olivas Park Drive to the Victoria Avenue on-ramp.

Wagon Wheel Road off-ramp detour will be the Vineyard Avenue or Victoria Avenue off-ramp to Gonzales Road to Oxnard Boulevard.

Oxnard Boulevard off-ramp detour will be the Vineyard Avenue or Victoria Avenue off-ramp to Gonzales Road to Oxnard Boulevard or Rose Avenue to Gonzales Road to Oxnard Boulevard.

While the southbound U.S. 101 Vineyard Avenue off-ramp will be temporarily widened to accommodate the Wagon Wheel Road and Oxnard Boulevard detoured traffic, the use of alternate routes is encouraged to minimize congestion on the Vineyard ramp and Vineyard Avenue.

The closures are part of the \$100 million improvement project on U.S. 101 from Vineyard Avenue in Oxnard to Johnson Drive in Ventura. The project, which began in 2002, is expected to complete mid-2007. Major components include construction of a full diamond interchange at Oxnard Boulevard, adding northbound and southbound lanes to U.S. 101 and constructing a new bridge over the Santa Clara River.

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